1

App. F. IX-4

Previous References

1924.
E.A.G.

File No. 2-14

Serial Nos. 1-18

Later References

P

General and Revenue Secretariat.

Serial Nos. 18

Part B for August 1928

SUBJECT

5/4/1 Re: measures needed for promoting the efficiency of Taluk Administration

Received with thanks.
(The work not being in the office while reviewing)

Subd

copies of prop No. 4805-12 / R1668 of 27/10/86 & No. 5525-33 / R1805 of 21/12/87 pertaining

H.S.
6/12/00

To
One of the
files dealt
with by the
E. of Brama

(the only one
we [illegible]
while [illegible])

Filed for
reason
before
recent

In
25/7/28

[illegible]

[illegible] Recorded
[illegible] 1/8/28

No. 679 / 04
17.2.09

Re Time limit of Amildars' office notes. pp 1-9 of Amildar's stay order the HC for every month

1)

2) Draft

3) L.R. 75 (of 1957-77)
Sless/ht 18/2

4) Collr. existing G.O.s:
R 4665-72/d 14.12.99
1560

5) Collr. E.A.G. 2-12
Sls 1-18

RSP
17.2.09

To be kept in the office.

Sa

G. R. S. 26]

3

File No. 29 14-15

Serial No. 1

Diary No. of letter replied to _____

General and Revenue-Secretariat
( )
, the 191 .

Date of issue 11/9/14

Signed by Sd/ N. Madhava Rao.

No. 28 to 32

To

1 K S Doraswami Iyer, Esq
2 C Srikantiah Iyer, Esq, B.A. B.L.
3 K Seeniraja Rao, Esq
4. B G Kumaraswami Naik, Esq
5 P.T. Browning Esq.

Sir,

I am desired to ~~state~~ request you ~~if it be no trouble~~ that ~~you will~~ you have been so good as to send a note of your ~~selected as one of the Corporation Gentlemen to confer with Govt on the~~ views on the marginally noted Examination & Development over.

"Measures needed for securing the efficiency of Taluk Boards"

SUBJECT.

5

~~question and to ~~[illegible]~~ inquire whether you will find it convenient to ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible] a suitable scheme on the subject and permit you~~ to the ~~same on or before the end of [illegible] next.~~

If ~~the same be not~~ you are agreeable to the proposal ~~communicated to you~~. The ~~[illegible]~~ 1st of October 1914 has been fixed as the latest date for the submission of the note

Yours sincerely
[illegible]

[illegible] to [illegible].

List of enclosures,

Copied by

Examined by

GPB—25,000—4-3-13

Confidential

Organization & Development Questions – E & M

Sl. No.	Subject	Names of Officers responsible	Names of Co-operators	Probable date before which a final note with definite recommendations may be expected	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Measures needed for promoting the efficiency of Taluk administration	Mr. D. M. Narasinga Rao " N. Madhava Rao	Mr. K. S. Doraswami Iyer " K. Srinivasa Rao " C. Srikantesvara Aiyar " B. J. Kumaraswami Naidu " P. F. Bowring.	End of Decr. 14. Drum 21/8	New Subject.

6

General and Revenue Secretariat,

Bangalore, 11th September 1914.

190:28-32

E. A.

Sir,

I am desired to request you to be so good as to send a note of your views on the marginally noted organization and development question if you are agreeable to the proposal. The 1st of October 1914 has been fixed as the latest date for the submission of the note.

Measures needed for promoting the efficiency of Taluk Administration.

Yours sincerely,

N. Madhava Rao

For Offg. Secretary to Government,
General & Revenue Departments.

Dewan Bahadur
C. Srikanteswara Iyer, Esq., B.A., B.L.,
Inspector General of Police in Mysore,
Bangalore.

Sd 2.

DSO 23.9.14.

Dear Nanjundappa.

I don't recollect having been asked about this before. I shall feel obliged, if you will kindly refer me to the requisition or reference, if any, & forward me for any note or papers bearing light on the subject matter under reply.

Yours sincerely
22/9/14

For Papers at Mr N. M. Rao's request 22/9/14

Mr N. M. Rao may kindly speak to me about this

22/9/14

7

G. R. S. 26] Sl. 3.

File No. 2 of 14-15
Serial No. 3

Diary No. of letter replied to

General and Revenue Secretariat
( )
Camp-Mysore, the 25-9-1914.

Date of issue 25-9-1914.

Signed by D. M. Narasinga Rao Esq

No. C. 1.

Do.

To
Dewan Bahadur C. Srikanteswara Aiyar Esq BA. BL
I. G. of Police

Camp Mysore
24th Sept 1914

Dear Sir,

Referring to your D. O. letter dated the 23rd inst. I am to state that the letter from this office referred to by you is not a reminder to an earlier communication. It

over.

SUBJECT.

contains a request, made for the first time, for a note of your views on the measures necessary to promote the efficiency of Taluk Adm. ~~particularly~~ in the Revenue Dept. I am sorry I am not in a position to furnish you with any papers of reference on the subject. If you will kindly state the results of your personal experience, a consolidated note of your views and those of other cooperators will be drawn up and circulated for further opinion later on.

Yours Sincerely

Dhen
25/9

List of enclosures

Dhen
24/9/14

Copied by

Examined by

GPB—25,000—4-3-13

Put papers near 4/10

VIII 4/10 SL 4 D50A SL 4 9

Office of the Revenue Commissioner in Mysore,

Dated Camp Mysore, ~~3rd~~ 4th October 1914.

D.O. No. C·123.

Dear sir

Referring to your D.O. of 11th September asking for a note of my views upon measures needed for promoting the efficiency of the Taluk administration I beg to state that there are not many new views to offer, the subject being a very old one which had engaged the attention of Government in some one or other of its many phases from time to time. I shall however note down a few points that readily occur to me . I beg leave to refer to my D.O. letter of the 6th July last wherein some general administrative principles were referred to. Those principles apply here also.

The selection of Police and Excise Inspectors as Amildars should be put a stop to. It is not clear on what grounds a training in those Departments can be considered an adequate qualification for an Amildary. In the case of Sub Registrars who are usually men with good educational qualifications an exception can be made but it must be a condition precedent that the Sub Registrar has had a preliminary training in the Revenue Department. I would propose that the old office of Peshkar be revived and the Sub Registrar given it. In addition to his duties the Sub Registrar can have a 3rd class Magistrate's powers and a share of the Amildar's Revenue work. Some years ago even Hospital Assistants were eligible for an Amildary ! and a list of them was going to Government every year in the same way as the lists from the Police, Excise and other Departments ! But the Revenue officials were not eligible for appointment as Police Inspectors, Excise Inspectors, Hospital Assistants or P.W.D. Supervisors ! What is necessary now is to find a sufficient number of higher appointments in the Excise, Police &c. Departments for the men of those Departments and so secure better efficiency for those Departments and avoid creating

inefficiency in the Revenue Department. There is not an official in any of the numerous Departments in Mysore who does not think himself quite equal to being a Taluk administrator ! But administration is an art inherent in some and acquired in some others. There is yet another class of persons who have it simply thrust upon them but vanity being a large factor in the affairs of the world it is difficult to disabuse them of their faith in their own capacity. What is called administrative talent is a composition of certain qualities of head and heart and Nature is not very prolific in its production because of the difficulty in correctly proportioning the numerous components. We cannot be too careful therefore in our selection of Amildars. To secure successful prosecutions in a Criminal Court is well in its place in the Police Department but it is a training most undesirable for one who is to occupy the seat of judgment. In the matter of securing an increase of Revenue to the Government like the Excise official in the Excise Department it is no doubt one of the important duties of an Amildar but by no means the most important. A Taluk administration is good or bad as the man at the head of it makes it.

The compilation of a Taluk Manual which had been urged for the consideration of the Government some years ago has received sanction and the work is proceeding. The usefulness of such a Manual was more than once urged in the past and has been accepted by the Government and there is no need therefore to dilate upon this subject now.

The sorting of the Records is a preliminary condition for efficiency and my communications on the subject have been before the Government for some time. Efficiency will be a meaningless word so long as there is no consistency in orders or continuity in policy.

An improvement in the pay and status of the Amildars is another very important matter pressing for urgent consideration. Amildars are to the Revenue Department what Munsiffs are to the

11

Judicial Department. Every Department has had its turn in the matter of improved pay and status but not this unfortunate Department which not only contributes the largest Revenue to our Treasuries but helps to maintain peace and order in the country.

The Taluks which are in the direct charge of a Deputy Commissioner should be transferred to the Sub Division Officer. A Deputy Commissioner in the midst of his manysided work cannot be expected to give the same attention to the Taluk routine as a Sub Division Officer can. This would mean an increase of Sub Division Officers.

The number of Hoblies also calls for an increase. A good deal depends upon the Shekdar. He must have a lesser charge and more time to attend to its needs.

These and many other measures suggest themselves but they are so simple and so widely known that it might be an impertinence to dilate further on them.

Yours truly

D.M. Narasinga Rao Esq., B.A.,B.L.,
Offg: Secretary to Government, General
and Revenue Departments.

D 135 G.A. 2-14 Sl. No 5 12

D.O. letter dated the 5th December 1914 from the Inspector General of Police in Mysore to the Secretary to Government, General and Revenue Departments.

- - - - - - - - - -

With reference to your enquiries calling for opinion regarding "Co-operation of Departments" and "Improvement of Taluk Administration",&c., I send enclosed two short notes containing my views on a few of the salient points concerning them.

I may also add that the subjects are of such vast importance as would need greater deliberation, closer consultation and consideration and a careful thorough handling, then such opinion as has been called for.

- - - - - - -

Original with G.A.B. ~~Sl. No. G.D.~~ No 6
Construction of work
& Co-operation between Depts.

Enc to 8L/1/05 13

TALUK ADMINISTRATION

It is a matter of prime necessity that Amildars should as far as practicable make local inspections and enquiries before forming any opinion or submitting reports on all matters, however trivial they may be, instead of merely forwarding the reports submitted by Shekdars. If the Amildars move about freely and verify on the spot the correctness of reports of the subordinate officers, there would be such a vast improvement in the quality of the work turned out by them; and even in any particular case the Amilda is unable by some reason or the other to make any personal inspection but has to depend upon the subordinate staff, the very fear that he might any day turn up on the spot and verify the truth or otherwise of their report, will act as a wholesome deterrent against their sending in vague, unverified or unreliable reports.

The despatch of business in a Taluk depends entirely on the activity displayed by an Amildar, who for that purpose should be a good horseman and required to actually camp out in the outlying villages for at least 15 days in a month.

Out-door useful work and not mere quill-driving being the most important factor in the satisfactory performance of the duties of an Amildar, the emoluments of this responsible officer have to be commensurate with the executive efficiency expected of him, neither of which can at present be said to be quite adequate. With the steady rise in the prices and the comparatively high standard of living, the pay of an Amildar, which was fixed some years ago, is hardly sufficient to meet his needs. The scale of pay of this class of officers who are the back-bone of the service should be urgently revised, and their travelling allowances also increased proportionately, in addition to holding out more easy flow of promotions and better prospects of

advancement to higher grades of service, which alone can greatly stimulate them to work with more zeal and interest. In this connection, it will be mere affectation not to bring to the notice of Government that the anomoly of having a large number of acting Amildars, as at present, has to a large extent deteriorated the Taluk administration, the generality of officiating men, not unnaturally, with the uncertainty of being confirmed, merely trying to do the routine, not even equipping themselves with good and serviceable horses.

Besides, another weak point in the modern Amildar is generally his want of grasp of the principles of law, in spite of his success in the local service examinations, and men who are not likely to turn out good magistrates and exercise their police duties as heads of Taluk Police, with vigour, common sense and tact, ought not to be selected for the post.

2. Closely allied to this subject, are the improvements in the Taluk Sheristedari and Shekdari services, which at present are not so satisfactory.

To relieve the Amildar of much of the dry routine and spare his energies for the out-door work, the Taluk Sheristedar must be a man of experience and thorough knowledge of the practice and procedure of the Revenue law and Accounts, for which capable and efficient men from the class of Shekdars and Head Gumastas should be more freely made use of than now.

3. The Shekdari class itself is unfortunately deteriorating. The minimum standard of general education for entry into this service was fixed as a pass in the Matriculation examination in the year 1906; and whereas in our neighbouring provinces the standard is being raised from time to time, we have recently allowed the rule to be relaxed and been entertaining raw youths with qualifications of the Lower Secondary

examination, with the result that while the old and experienced class of Shekdars is fast disappearing, we have been replacing them only by a set of people with meagre qualifications and no culture, bringing down the service to the level, perhaps lower than what it was some years ago. This is a matter of grave importance which cannot be too strongly emphasized for the bettering of the Taluk administration.

4. The present rule which requires the deputation of Taluk Gumastas for the inspection of boundary marks requires abrogation, not only for the reason that their services cannot well be spared, as has been found by experience, the work in the Taluk Cutcherries being ever on the increase, but also because they are ill-equipped for this duty which requires for its satisfactory performance the services of trained men like Mojanidars, who can bring to bear upon the discharge of their duties professional skill of a fairly high order, and any money spent on the entertainment of such men will be more than compensated for by the adequacy of the return expected.

5. The existing practice of disposing of Phavathi Vars Thakthas at the time of the Huzur Jamabandi may as well be given up, there being no reason why, under the present system of having Sub Divisional Officers, such cases instead of being allowed to accumulate for a year should not be disposed of then and there as they arise.

Sikandar Ramaiyar

Bangalore, 30th November 1914.

D. no. 296/E.A.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
KOLAR DISTRICT. 20 -

GOVERNMENT DEPT. BANGALORE

Please work up — up to date

File no 2-1 Sl 6.

Kolar, 20th Feb. 1915.

Dear Sir,

In reference to your letter No.277.E.A. dated the 11th ultimo, I herein enclose a Note of my views on the measures needed for promoting the efficiency of Taluk Administration.

Yours sincerely,

N. Madhava Rao, Esq,
Assistant Secretary to Govt,
General & Revenue Depts,
Bangalore.

Enc 1582 No 6

17

Note.

MEASURES NEEDED FOR PROMOTING THE EFFICIENCY OF TALUK ADMINISTRATION.

I have been asked for my views on the measures needed for promoting the efficiency of the Taluk Administration if I am agreeable to the proposal.

I am not sure if by Taluk Administration is meant the administration of the Division from the Sub Division officer down to the patel and shanbhog of the village, or if it refers only to the Amildar and his immediate subordinates; but the diffenence is not very material.

I don't think very much need be said about the Sub Division officer. He is the controlling spirit of the sub division; and provided he has a sufficiency of tact, and is well up in the details of what ought to be done, and is looked up to for guidance by those placed immediately under him, he ought not to find his duties too arduous, and we may take it that most of our Assistant Commissioners, as a rule, possess these qualities.

The important personage in succes-

ful Taluk Administration is the Amildar, and from my experience, I may say that we have all sorts and conditions of Amildars - good, bad and indifferent.

To fill this post successfully now-a-days is no easy matter. Years ago, it was always said that the Amildar with his multifarious duties was a hard worked official; and what is to be said now when, owing to the activities of the Economic Conference, and the call for statistics from all directions, his work is probably double what it used to be.

Some people advocate the separation of the executive and judicial functions in the Amildar, but I myself am not in favour of this. The Amildar has not only to attend to the collections and other Revenue work, but is also responsible for the peace and tranquility of the people of the Taluk; and if he is deprived of his judicial functions, I opine that people will not listen to him so readily, and he will certainly lose a good deal of his prestige and power to maintain discipline and order in the villages. How to relieve him then of some

of his work is a problem not easy to solve, and the only work that I can think of that he might be relieved of is Maramat and the restoration of minor tanks if this can be entrusted solely to the Maramat Engineer and his Sub overseers and the Sub Division officer. Perhaps also he may be relieved of Police duties. Even this is of dubious expediency.

The recruitment of Amildars is another very ticklish subject. Nearly every official who draws a salary of Rs 70 thinks that he is entitled to have his name entered in the list of officials eligible for Amildari, irrespective of what Department he has been working in all his life, and how little he knows about Revenue matters. In fact, I do not think much of this list.

To make a good Amildar, the candidate besides having passed all the required tests, should be a person of experience and character with tact enough to command the confidence of the people, and one who has worked his way up from the lower rungs of the ladder, and is conversant with all the details of Revenue Administration from the work of the patel and the shanbhog upwards.

No official who has not previously served in the Revenue Department for at least five years in one or more of the following appointments, viz, District Sheristedar, Head clerk, Head Munshi or Head Accountant in a Deputy Commissioner's office or Taluk Sheristedar, should be considered eligible for Amildari. Graduates possessing the above qualifications should be preferred to non-graduates.

It is an up-hill task for any one to be appointed an Amildar, if he is ignorant of the details of routine of office and administrative works.

I doubt if the present ruling of ten days out per month is of much value. The out-door work of the Amildar can be better gauged by the extent of his inspections of villages, tanks, etc, and by the knowledge that he shows of his Taluk when questions are put to him by his superior officers. The Amildar should be able to pass orders on most subjects that come before him without having to refer the matter to his shekdars and Gumastas if he has really studied the wants of the people, and is well acquaint-

ed by constant inspections of villages, of Taluk affairs.

The haltage allowance of one rupee a day now paid to the Amildars is paltry compared with the responsibilities and status of their offices.

I would not however increase it as this might lead to abuse and constant absence of the Amildar from Head-quarters. I would rather give him a horse allowance of Rs 25.

As regards shekdars, it is to be regretted that the scheme formulated a few years ago to improve the service by introducing men of better educational qualifications has been relaxed by lowering the qualification for shekdari.

Young men of education and character should be selected, and after a sufficient course of clerical training in Revenue work, should be posted as shekdars; fair prospects of a rise in the service should be extended to them by giving them preference in filling up the appointments of ministerial headships in District offices and also the Taluk Sheristedari; and an Amildari should be a no remote

prize to an official who has thus worked through the ranks of subordinate executive and clerical service. It is then that the service will attract young intelligent men capable of turning out hard and honest work.

As for the officials who comprise the Amildar's office establishment, it is difficult to say what is best to be done for them.

There are some very excellent and worthy persons among them, but taking them all round, they are not up to the mark, principally because their education is deficient, and because they have not got a prope sense of responsibility.

The apparent inefficiency is due to this. They are not exactly incompetent, but their inefficiency is due to want of moral training.

Even if all their salaries were doubled, they would not do their work any better. They lack a moral sense of what is right and what is wrong in official matters, and this is due of course to the poor education that, in the majority of instances, the have received and the consequent difficultie

of training such poorly educated men.

As for patels and shanbhogs, these as a whole, do what is expected of them fairly well. I don't think we can interfere much with them. These are hereditary offices, and the most we can do in the case of patels is to see that now-a-days the men who are appointed are literate with sufficient character and sense of responsibility as the headmen of the villages.

To sum up, I would say that to improve the efficiency of the Taluk Administration, three things are very necessary:-

1. Very careful selection of Amildars;
2. Improvement of the shekdari service by selecting young promising men of education and character; and
3. Improvement of the education especially the moral tone of those men appointed to work as Munshis and Gumastas in the Taluk office.

With improvement in their status, and a prospect of rising to better things, which is now very remote for them, better men may be secured.

The subject is a very wide one, and many and varied views are ~~[illegible]~~ probably forthcoming, and I have therefore confined myself to a few very important points.

One other point, and I have done.

One patent defect in the Revenue Administration - an inconvenience both to the Authorities and to the people alike - is the want of finality in the decisions over revenue questions and disputes. It is a common experience at present that no dispute or takrar is set at rest by any one enquiry and decision even of the highest authority. The disappointed party is encouraged to hammer on his own point and keep alive to his claim by constant petitions on which the enquiries are repeated over and over again, with varying results according to the guiding spirit of the moment. This only tends to swell the work of the Amildar with no hope of ending the takrar either by authoritative decision or local reconciliation. What is wanted is that, in Revenue disputes, a principle of finality should prevail as in civil and criminal matters with defined rules of limited appeals and revisions.

I may also add that the number of petitions received in Taluk offices direct from parties and also through the Sub Division

and the District offices is enormous. Petitions are often simultaneously sent to more than one office on one and the same subject. The enormous increase in the number of petitions is one of the chief causes of heaviness of work in the Taluk offices. The number of petitions can be much reduced by strict enforcement of a rule of finality in decisions and of the stamp rule which requires proper stamp to be used for original petitions. Reminder petitions should also be stamped, but they may be charged half fees. Every petition should be written on Government paper. In all cases of appeal against the orders of subordinate Revenue officers, the production of orders appealed against should be invariably insisted on.

Anonymous and malicious petitions however, should be discouraged as much as possible.

P.K. Bosmiq

D.no. 359/E.A
13.3.15

Sl. 7 26

D.O No: 98
Enl
13/3/15

Special Office for Taluk and
Village Manuals in Mysore,
Field View. Basavangudi,
Dated Bangalore, 6th March 1915.

Dear sir,

With reference to your D.O. No.462/E.A. dated 23rd February 1915, and subsequent reminders, calling for suggestions regarding the measures needed for the efficiency of Taluk Administration, I have the honour to state, that before venturing to submit my views on the subject, I would like to study the system of work prevailing in the Taluks of the Madras and Bombay Presidencies, which I propose to visit shortly in connection with the special work of the compilation of the Taluk Manual now on hand. I may then be in a position to give some useful suggestions

Extract of letter No.97/1 dated 22nd February 1915 fro the Special Officer, to the Revenue Commissioner in Mysore.

X X X X X X X X X

X X X X X Z X X

Adverting to General and Revenue Secretary's letter No.R. 6980-L.R.212-14-10, dated 13th February 1915, I have the honour to state that I intend interviewing the Collectors of the District of Madura and Godavari, and ascertain from them in which Taluk in their respective Districts all the information required for purposes of compilation of the Taluk Manual may with advantage be gathered. The Taluks recommended by them will be visited.

2. Advantage would also be taken to study the working of the head quarter Taluk of the two Districts with a view to suggest any improvements in the working of the Taluk Offices in the State as called for in the Secretary's letter quoted in the margin.

X X X X X X X

X X X X X X X

(Sd) K. Srinivasa Rao,
Special Officer.

" C O P Y "

K Srinivasa Rao
Special Officer.

2. I append extract of my letter No.97/1 dated 22nd February 1915 to the Revenue Commissioner in Mysore, wherein I have embodied the above proposal.

Yours sinserely,

Krishnaswamy

N. Madhava Rao Esquire B.A.,B.L.,
Assistant Secretary,
Bangalore.

E A 120 48

W. D. 1270—GPB—1,000—7-12-15—Stg.

G.R.S. 31]

No. 120-E.A.7

GOVERNMENT OF HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE
GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Dated Bangalore, 24. 3. 1916.

FROM

D. M. NARASINGA RAO, ESQ., B.A., B.L.,
Secretary to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore,
General Department.

To

The Revenue Commissioner
The D. G. of Police
The Deputy Commissioners of Districts.

SIR,

I am directed to forward herewith copies of communications received on Organisation and Development subject No. 1 (efficiency of Taluk administration) and to request the favour of your opinion, ~~on further opinion, as the case may be,~~ on the following proposals:-

1. Relief of Amildars from Maramat and police duties,
2. Increasing the number of Hoblis,
3. Raising the minimum period of tour of Amildars from 10 to 15 days.

An early reply is requested.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

for Secretary to Government,
General Department.

T.M.M.-15

No. 6013/734 Encl. 2

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE IN MYSORE,

Dated Bangalore, 26th *1916*.

From

Diwan Bahadur C. SRIKANTESVARA AIYAR, B.A., B.L.,
Inspector-General of Police in Mysore.

To

D. M. NARASINGA RAO, ESQ., B.A., B.L.,
~~Officiating~~ Secretary to the Government of
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore,
General Department.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No.120/E dated the 24th March 1916, anent the further improvement in the efficiency of Taluk Administration, I have the honor to invite reference to my D.O. dated the 5th December 1914, with which I sent a Note on the subject, and to resubmit the need for increasing the pay and emoluments of the Amildars commensurate with the executive efficiency expected of them, and the expediency of avoiding acting incumbents to continue as such, for indefinite periods.

2. The subject of relieving the Amildars of their Police duties is not a new one, and in the Taluk where the experiment is being made for some time past, no inconvenience has been felt; but it is entirely due to superior superintending agency, under the control of the Special Superintendent of Police, Kolar Gold Fields and the more highly paid Police Inspectors, invariably posted to that Taluk. To relieve the Amildars of these duties generally all over the State is only a question of finance and time which can be done when the pay and status of the Police Inspectors are raised and the whole tone and morale of the Police are improved Vide para 53 of Police Administration Report for 1914-15 - Extract enclosed for ready

E.A.G.120.429.

From GPB 30/4/16 GPB—300—26-7-15

The Inspector-General of Police in Mysore.

To

The Secretary to the Government of H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore, General Dept.

Dated

Despatched 27.6.16

Received

General No. 6013

No. 734

SUBJECT.

reference. This subject is being dealt with separately in connection with the improvements to be effected in the Police Department.

3. It is undesirable to separate the work of the maramath branch from the Amildars as it is closely allied with the Revenue Department, especially in connection with the minor tanks restoration scheme.

4. Increasing the number of Hoblis is a matter of local circumstances and conditions, and in a few localities the present Hoblis are somewhat unwieldy and have to be split up into smaller ones. But the more important thing in this connection is to improve the Shekdari service itself, by fixing a higher standard of general education for admission thereto, and improving the pay and prospects of the service, in order that men of education and characte may be recruited.

5. Our Amildars being also Magistrates for the time being, so long as it is not practicable to separate the executive and judicial functions, their criminal work will grievously suffer, as indeed it has already suffered and is going from bad to worse for some time past, if the minimum period of their tour be raised from 10 to 15 days. If instead of a nominal camping out, their itineration is performed with a soul in their work, on a well laid out programme, much good can be done within the 10 days.

I have the honor to be,

sir,

Your most obedient servant,

C. Sri Kantaraw Raja

Inspector General of Police.

M.S.R.

Enc to St-No 9

33

Extract of para 53 of the Police Administration for the year 1914-1915.

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53. General. The work of the rank and file has been on the whole satisfactory during the year, with improvements in various directions. Detection of cases has been better, with fairly good percentage of recovery of property alleged to be lost, better results being perceptible in dealing with offences against the State, coin and public justice and in cases of riots, murders, robberies &c, and in effectively watching the movements of criminals and gangs, and thus preventing to an appreciable degree occurrences of organized crime. They have acquitted themselves particularly well in Sessions Cases, and in fact have kept fair pace with general progress, and advanced in all respects during recent years.

There is yet much improvement to be effected in matters of their conduct and behaviour, and in the more vigorous pursuit and suppression of crime, better display of detective ability and using the natural powers of observation therefor, and a shrewd and intelligent understanding of the methods pursued by present-day criminals, etc to render detection of crime more a system and less dependent upon chances or quasi confessions. All this has to come in gradually by bringing them to a higher standard of education and putting them through disciplinary training, for which purpose our Police Training School has recently been re organized. We are still

	Percentage of Police educated or literate		Cost per Police man Rs.
	Officers	men	
Madras.	98.2	84.5	279
Bombay.	96.0	52.5	276
Mysore.	95.4	47.8	191

far behind in respect of education, the percentages of literate men in our neighbouring Presidencies with their higher emoluments being as shown in the margin.* Improving the scale of pay and allowances of the subordinate officers and constables is a factor in achieving this object, when better classes of recruits can be attracted to the much abused, yet onerous Police service.

Another matter bearing directly upon the success of the Police administration is the attitude of the people towards the Police. They are apathetic towards aiding in investigations and reporting of crime. The worry and annoyance due to a Police investigation, interruption to work and easy life, expense involved, long journeys to courts, frequent adjournments and consequent absences from home, are so many hindrances silencing them or dissuading them from coming forward and helping the Police. The people have to understand that the Police are after all their friends, who are maintained to safeguard their lives and property, and freely resort to them for help, while the latter must do all they can to win the confidence of the people, by persuasion and tactful methods, with more civility, alacrity and truthfulness and making them believe that the Police are but ~~for~~ the servants of the public. Both have to work and meet halfway co-operating with each other, when alone the ideal of the Police can be attained.

Inspector General of Police.

No. 385/9-107

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Shimoga District,
Dated Shimoga 4th April 1916.

From

K. Matthan, Esquire, B.A.,
Deputy Commissioner,
Shimoga District.

To

D.M. Narasinga Rao, Esquire, B.A.B.L.,
Secretary to the Government of Mysore,
General Department,
Bangalore.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No.120- E.A.G. dated 24th March 1916 calling for opinion on certain points connected with the efficiency of taluk administration, I have the honor to state as follows:-

1. In my opinion, Amildars may with advantage be relieved of the duty of supervising the restoration of minor tanks. They have neither the technical knowledge and training nor the time necessary for supervising such works.

2. I think that Amildars may also be relieved of police duties, but not until we have a better class of Police Inspectors. Out Inspectors of the last classes get less pay than Sub-Inspectors in the Madras Presidency and in the Native States of Travancore and Cochin. If we have Inspectors drawing not less than say Rs 100/-, it would be feasible and very desirable to relieve Amildars of police duties.

3. The unweildy size of some of the hoblies after the last re distribution is a fruitful source of delay in the disposal of work in taluk offices. In the Shimoga District, almost in every taluk the number of hoblies ~~after the last~~ should be increased by one.

4. It is desirable that the minimum period of touring by the Amildars should be raised from 10 to 15 days. This they can easily manage, but days on which they come back to head-quarters from a

E. A9.120.1 Sd 10 VIII 6/4/16 36

GPB—50,000—17-9-15

19 15-16.

From

The Deputy Commissioner,
Shimoga District.

To The Secretary to the Government
of Mysore,
General Department,
Bangalore.

Dated 4th April 1916.

Despatched

Received

General No. 3857/9.107
No.

Enclosure No.

Gives opinion re the efficiency of taluk administration.

distance of more than 5 miles should be included in the calculation. If the period of touring is to be increased it is also necessary that the Amildars should be permitted to draw travelling allowances at proper rates. How anybody can imagine that an Amildar can manage his camp expenses (including cart hire) at the paltry rate of one ruppe a day passes ones comprehension. The resul is either that he has to incur pretty heavy expenditure out of his own pocket for his travelling (in which case he avoid camping out as much as possible) or that he will have to depend on villagers to supply him with provisions and carts.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Deputy Commissioner,
Shimoga District.

GPB—50,000—17-9-15

19

E. A. G. 120

From The Deputy Commissioner Kolar District.

To The Secretary to the Govt of Mysore

Dated 28-4-16 Genl Dept Bangalore

Despatched

Received

General No. 416.

No.

Enclosure No.

Furnishing further opinion on certain points relating to organization & Development subject No 1. (Efficiency of Taluk Administration)

39

G Ag. 82-11
120.

No. 446

Deputy Commissioner's Office,
Kolar District,
Dated Kolar, the 28th April 1916.

From

P. F. B O W R I N G, Esquire., J.P.,
Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District.

To

D. M. Narasinga Rao, Esquire., B.A., B.L.,
Secretary to the Government of His Highness the
Maharaja of Mysore, General Department,
B a n g a l o r e

Sir,

With reference to your letter No.120/E. dated 24th March 1916, calling for my further opinion on certain points relating to organization and development Subject No.1 (Efficiency of Taluk Administration), I have the honor to state that I have already expressed my views on the subject in my D. O. communication dated 20th February 1915. Therein I have stated that the Amildars may be relieved of the Police and -- Maramat duties. From my subsequent experience of the working of the Minor Tanks Restoration Scheme, I have to modify my -- views. There are certain important provisions which cannot be worked out satisfactorily without the help and co-operation

of the Amildars. There is difference between the Major Tank works carried out by the D. P. W. and other Minor Tank works executed by the Marahmat Department. In the former, the entire cost of restoration is borne by Government and the work entrusted to professional standing contractors, who can execute the works as per estimates and plans without instruction at every step, whereas in the case of the latter, a portion of the estimated cost of restoration has to be recovered from the ryots and the works carried out through the agency of unprofessional men such as Patels, Shanbhogues, etc., who require constant instruction and stimulus. So long as we have got these two conditions in the Minor Tank Restoration Scheme, the Amildar's help seems to be indispensable.

2. In the matter of separating the Police duties from Amildars, I am in favour of such a proposal; but there is one important point on which I wish to lay special emphasis. In case the Amildars are relieved of Police duties, the status of the Police Inspector must be raised and his pay increased in proportion to the responsibilities devolving on him.

3. In my opinion, there is absolutely no necessity to increase the number of Hoblies, which are quite handy for the

Sheikdars to discharge their several duties without the least strain. If there is complaint regarding the work of the Sheikdars, it is evidently due to the inefficiency of the staff and not to the size of the Hoblies.

4. The quality and quantity of work done by the Amildar should be tested by the number of Villages inspected and the actual work turned out by him from day to day and from month to month than by the number of nights he camped out from Head quarters. He must be able to do substantial touring and inspection work during the day time, disposing of papers as he encamps in villages. It is immaterial where he sleeps at nights after the days hard work. The present rule that Amildars should camp out ten nights in a month does not, in my opinion, serve much useful purpose. I am told with a view to strictly comply with the rules, some Amildars sit all day long at Head quarters, go to some villages in the night in a covered cart perhaps -- after supper, sleep there and return to Head quarters in the early morning. Instead of compelling the Amildar to camp out certain number of nights in a month, I would suggest that he be directed to visit each village once in four months. Similarly the Sheikdar may be compelled to camp out in each village

comprised in his Hobli once in every two months. If this rule is strictly enforced, a great deal of improvement will have been effected in the efficiency of the Taluk Administration.

I have the honor to be,

S i r,

Your most obedient servant,

Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.

GPB—50,000—13-9-15

E - A.9.120.

1915-16.

From

C.Venkata Rao Esquire,B.A.,

Offg. Deputy Commissioner,

To Hassan District.

D.M.Narasinga Rao Esquire, B.A,B.L.,
Secretary to the Govt. of H.H. the
Maharaja of Mysore, General Dept.
BANGALORE.

Dated 3rd. May 1916.

Despatched

Received

General No. 400
No. S.

Enclosure No. Nil.

S_U_B_J_E_C_T.

Submitting opinion on Organization and Development Subject No. 1. (Efficiency of Taluk administration)

---

information from the people. It is a matter of common knowledge that in heinous cases the Police Inspector, especially if he is new to the Taluk, cannot be sure of detecting the culprits as public opinion is non-existent in villages and the people are not forward in helping the Police in getting at the truth. It is only in such cases that the Amildar has to step in to vindicate justice. In other respects, he is as little interfering as possible in the Police administration of the Taluk.

2. Increasing the number of Hobblies.

This has to be effected in the case of particular hobblies which are unwieldly. But better results can be expected by defining the duties of Sheikdars, laying down correct procedure, and programme of work to be carried out by them.

3. Raising the minimum period of tour of Amildar from 10 to 15 days.

Amildars' Head quarter duties are every day on the increase. Even the present rules is frequently evaded by selecting favourite camping places and passing only nights in villages. Most of the villages have no convenient camping places and the Amildars are not supplied with tents. A light Field Officers' 8 lbs tent may be supplied to each Amildar, if he should be expected to camp in remote villages of his Taluk.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Offg. Deputy Commissioner,

Hassan District.

Deputy Commissioner's Office,

Hassan District.

Dated 3rd. May 1916.

From,

C.Venkata Rao Esquire, B.A.,

Offg. Deputy Commissioner,

Hassan District.

To,

D.M.Narasinga Rao Esquire, B.A,B.L.,

Secretary to the Government of

His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore,

General Department, Bangalore.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 120 E.A.G.dated 24th. March 1916 asking my opinion as to whether Amildars may be relieved of Maramat and Police duties, whether the number of Hoblies may be increased and whether the minimum period of tour of Amildarsmay be raised from 10 to 15 days in a month, I have the honour to state as follows:-

(a) Relief of Amildars from Maramat duties--

At present it is the duty of the Amildar to initiate Maramat works, collect contributions, restore minor tanks and maintain the restored tanks. The duty of regulating water supply for irrigation also devolves on him. It is not understood how the Amildars could be divested of these functions as the same cannot be tacked on to any other Departmental Officer. Until all the minor tanks are restored, the Amildar has to continue to share the responsibility with regard to tank works.

(b) Amildars' Police duties.

This subject has been discussed threadbare under two previous administrations and the proposal vetoed for very good reasons. So long as the Police subordinates are of the present type, their work has to be watched by a superior officer who has opportunities of getting correct

information

E. Ag 120

GPB—50,000—27-9-16

19

From
The Deputy Commissioner,
Mysore Distt.

To
The Secretary to the Govt. of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore
Genl. Department, Bangalore

Dated
Despatched } 10.5.1946
Received

General No. 656
No.

Enclosure No.

Submitting opinion on Organisation and Development. Subject No. 1 (Efficiency of Taluk Administration).

No. 656

Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Mysore Dist.

Dated, Mysore, 10th May 1916.

From

A. Subramanya Iyer, Esquire., B.A.,

Deputy Commissioner, Mysore District.

To

D.M. Narasinga Rao, Esquire., B.A. B.L.,

Secretary to the Government of His

Highness the Maharaja of Mysore,

General Department, BANGALORE.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 120-E A G dated the 24th March 1916 forwarding for my opinion certain communications on organization and Development, subject No. 1 (efficiency of Taluk Administration), I have the honor to state as follows:--

1. Relief of Amildars from Maramat and Police duties:- Relief from Police duties is not in my opinion desirable.

As regards Maramat also, I think that it is not desirable that the Amildars should be relieved of the duties. It is the belief that no body has as much influence with the people as an officer of the Revenue Department; and be the work what it may, the Amildars' co-operation is sought. Recently I found a case in which an Amildar had sent a Maramat Bill noting that he had not checked; when I enquired I found that it was enough, if the measurements were checked by the Sub Overseer attached to the Sub Division and so a cheque was issued. In the course of casual conversation with other officers, I learnt that Amildars already think that they have not much responsibility for maramat works and that in some parts it is usual to submit all the bills without the measurements being checked by Amildars.

2. Increasing the number of Hoblis:- So far as this District is -- concerned, except in Krishnarajapet Taluk, I have not anywhere else

found

found any necessity to increase the number of Hoblis. Ordinarily, a Hobli may well consist of 40 villages.

3. Raising the minimum period of tour of Amildars from 10 to 15 days:--

This is not necessary. It is the quality, and not the quantity of ~~the~~ work that is important. Good work turned out in 10 days is more useful than indifferent work in 15 days. As noted in one of the enclosures received with the letter under reply, "it is a matter of prime necessity that Amildars --- should as far as practicable make local inspections and enquiries before forming any opinion on submitting reports on - all matters, however, trivial they may be, instead of merely -- forwarding the reports submitted by ~~the~~ Sheikdars."

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

Deputy Commissioner,

Mysore District.

GPB—50,000—26-9-15

1916-17 S-14 E&AG 120

From

The Deputy Commissioner,
Chitaldrug District

To

The Secretary to Government
General Department.
Bangalore

Dated 14th

Despatched 15th July 16

Received

~~General No.~~ D. Dis No 23 Rev 16-17
No.

Enclosure No. One.

Furnishing opinion on certain measures suggested for improving the Efficiency of Taluk Administration.

D Dc No 23 Rev 1916-17

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,

Chitaldrug District.

Dated, Chitaldrug, 14th July 1916.

15th

From

C.S.Balasundaram Iyer, Esquire, B.A.,

Deputy Commissioner,

Chitaldrug District.

TO

D.M.Narasinga Rao, Esquire, B.A.B.L.,

Secretary to the Government of His Highne

the Maharaja of Mysore,

General Department,

B A N G A L O R E.

S i r,

With reference to your No 120 E.A.G. dated 24th March 16 calling for my opinion on certain points connected with the efficiency of Taluk Administration, I have the honor to enclose a memo of my remarks. The remarks are somewhat desultory and do not cover the whole ground.

I have the honor to be,

S i r,

Your most obedient servant

C S Balasundaram Iyer

Deputy Commissioner,

Chitaldrug District.

MS

MEMO.

I (a) Relief of Amildars from Maramat duties.

The Maramat duties devolving upon the Amildars are

(1) Restoration of Minor Tanks.
(2) Maintenance of restored tanks -Major and Minor.
(3) Petty repairs to civil buildings including Police buildings.

The first of these and a part of the second are directly attended to by the Tank Inspector who works under the immediate control of the Amildar. The petty repairs to civil buildings are usually attended to by the Sanitary Inspector who also works under the immediate con--trol of the Amildar. The Amildar has also to do a fair amount of inspection of tanks and channels and is also res--ponsible to settle disputes about irrigation. It would no doubt be of some advantage, if all these duties can be taken away from the Amildar and given to some body else; but I think the real difficulty will lie in finding a suit--able agency able to operate in outlying parts of the Taluk independently of the Amildar or his revenue subordinates. Rightly or wrongly the majority of the ryots look up to the Revenue Officers and to the Amildar in particular in many matters and are more amenable to his advice or orders than to those of officers of other departments. The work of tank restoration and maintenence requires the collaboration of the ryots in a large measure either in the shape of money contributions or combined manual labour; I think it would be extremely difficult for the officers of the Public Works Department or the Revenue Maramat Department to secure the necessary the cooperation from the ryots and to get work done without the active support and help of the Amildar. There is no use in merely transferring the nominal responsibilty to others than the Amildar, leaving these

others to indent on the Amildars' services for carrying out these works.

I (b) Relief of Amildars from Police duties.

I am of opinion that this proposal is extremely undesirable. As already stated the Amildar has opportunities of coming into contact with the ryots on various occasions and generally ryots have every facility of going to the Amildar with a representation or petition. Through their acquaintance with all the village officers and leading men in the Taluk, the Amildars have easy access to information about all occurrences in the Taluk. The fact that the Amildar is the head of the Taluk Police gives him a good deal of control over the Police in the Taluk and their doings, and not being a Policeman alone but a magistrate and a Revenue officer as well, he has a broader outlook than the Policeman and is not likely to take a purely departmental view of the actions of the subordinate Police officers. No doubt, Police Inspectors and other Police Officers are paid very inadequately for the responsible duties entrusted to them; but any improvement of their prospects would be desirable -quite irrespective of liberation from their subordination to the Amildar.

II. Increasing the number of Hoblies.

In this District, there are 32 hoblies for 1496 villages on an area of 4160 sq. miles, which gives an average of about 47 villages for each hobli and area of 137 sq. miles, and I do not think this is too large an area for a sheikdar to manage and that any increase of the number of hoblies is called for generally. The only Taluk where one more hobli is wanted is Hosdrug which has 255 villages for 4 hoblies and one hobli of which contains 86 villages. It would be desirable to add one extra hobli to this Taluk. I do not think that any other increase is wanted in this District. As regards Sheikdars, I would suggest that a few appointments

of Probationary Sheikdars - say 3 or 4 for a District may be sanctioned so that young men who have undergone the Sheikdari training in the special school or have just passed the quali--fying tests may be given some training in official routine and may get a practical knowledge of the work in association with an experienced sheikdar before they are put in independent charge of the hoblies. Under the existing system, it is not possible to give this kind of training to raw recruits with the result that inexperienced men put in charge of hoblies make serious mistakes or become tools in the hands of clever shanbhogues or other local mischef-makers. The new system of recruitment tends to be discredited in this way.

III. Raising the minimum period of tour of Amildars from 10 to 15 days.

It is no doubt very desirable that the Amildar should camp out as long as possible so that he may be able to inspect all localities where there is work of any kind to be done. In this way, his reports will be based upon first hand knowledge and it will be easier for the higher officers to deal with cases finally than upon records based upon the reports of petty subordinates. Before however raising the minimum period of tour to 15 days, I think it is necessary to make it worth the while of the Amildar to do so much touring. The Amildar has ordinarily to maintain a pony, a bicycle and a country cart and a pair of bulls and all this equipment means a fair amount of expense. At present the Amildar gets a daily allowance of Rs 1 for the days he camps out and this is quite inadequate to meet the extra expenditure he is obliged to incur. I would suggest that the Amildar may be paid a fixed conveyance allowance of Rs 50/- per month and it may then be made compul--sory on him to camp out 15 days.

IV. General.

I make a few remarks suggested by views expressed

in the memoranda enclosed with your letter.

Re the recruitment of Amildars, Ithink a large proportion of them should be recruited from the Revenue service especially from among people who have worked as sheikdars, Taluk sheristedars, Head Munshis in the District Office etc., It would be well if a certain number of graduates are started as sheikdars and pushed up rapidly if found efficient. At present there are very few graduates in the clerical ranks of Revenue department and most of them are in the lower ranks and some of them have to be weeded out for various reasons. The pay of Amildars also stands urgently in need of improvemant. Even though the rates of pay vary from Rs 150 to Rs 250, just as is the case in the neighbouring British Provinces, out of 68 or 70 Amildars, there are only 6 on Rs 250 and 12 on Rs 200, the bulk of the men being in the two lower grades. The least that should be done would be to equalise the numbers in all these grades, so that there would be a fair flow of promotion. It seems to me that the special Sub-Registrars may be made part of the Revenue establishment with the status of Sheristedar or Peishkar and entrusted with the charge of the Taluk Treasury, wherever the Registration is not too heavy. The technical control of the registration work may remain with the Inspector General of Registration, as is the case at present in regard to ex-officio Sub Registrars. The pay and prospects of Taluk Sheristedars requires some improvement.

Then again the system of correspondence in the Taluk offices requires to be considerably improved. At present, it is almost next to impossible to trace out previous references from the "From" and "TO" Registers and the Disposal number system may, with very great advantage be introduced into the Taluks. I would however strongly deprecate the tendency to require correspondence, statements etc., in English from the Taluks. It is very desirable that all official work in the Taluk should be done in the vernacular as far as possible, and I would

suggest that all Government Orders and Circulars meant for use and observance in the Taluk should be issued in a vernacular translation without delay immediately the English orders are issued. The number of English knowing officials in the Taluk is very few and a good deal of delay and inefficiency is caused by the officials being unable to understand orders in English, let alone their writing reports in English. The kind of recruits now obtainable is at the best a man who has passed the Lower Secondary in English, whose little smattering of that language is of very little service to him in his official work. This class of official is also very often unable to read kanarese manuscripts fluently and can hardly prepare a decent report in the vernacular. If work in the Taluk is carried on as largely as possible in kanarese and necessary facilities are provided for the officials to obtain a knowledge of the latest rules and orders of Government in the vernacular, it will not be difficult to secure a class of officials who will be able to deal with official work intelligengtly and efficiently in the vernacular.

As regards records, the system of record-sorting brought into force some years ago is no doubt suitable and good but to make it complete, the considerable bulk of old records still left unsorted in several places should be brought into line with the new system at an early date. It is impossible to get this done by the permanent record establishment itself, in addition to current work and I would suggest that a certain lumpsum of money might be placed at the disposal of each Deputy Commissioner to entertain temporary hands and get the work done as quickly as possible. This would be better than sanctioning a small temporary establishment for particular taluks for particular periods. A sightly more elastic measure is wanted to permit of the Deputy Commissioner dealing with the varying requirements of different places.

C. Balasundaram

Deputy Commissioner
Chitaldrug District.

15-7-16

MS

GPB—50,000—17-9-15

1916. 4 AUG 1916

From
The Deputy Commissioner.
Kadur District.

To
The Secretary to Govt.
General Department.
Bangalore.

Dated 31st July 1916.

Despatched 3rd August '16.

Received

General No. H.O.C. no 1116
No. 1915-16

Enclosure No. nil

Furnishes opinion in re - the Organization and Development of Taluk Administration -

57

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,

Kadur District.

Dated Chikmagalur, 31st July 1916.

From

B. Ramaswamaiya, Esquire, B.A.,B.L.,

Offg. Deputy Commissioner,

Kadur District.

To

D.M. Narasinga Rao, Esquire, B.A.,B.L.,

Secretary to the Government of Mysore,

General Department, Bangalore.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No.120.E.A.G.120 dated 24th March 1916 forwarding copies of communications on Organization and Development Subject No.1(efficiency of Taluk administration) and calling for my opinion on certain proposals mentioned therein, I have the honour to state as follows:-

(1) With regard to the proposal to relieve Amildars of Maramatt duties, it may be stated that the Amildar being the Chief Revenue Officer of the Taluk, he alone can enforce the ryots' duty of carrying out annual maintenance works to Tanks in time, as from his itineration in the Taluk he will be conversant with the conditions of the tanks in his jurisdiction. His inspections will also enable him to propose the restoration of such tanks as are in urgent need of repairs in the order of their importance. As per orders of Government conveyed in Proceedings No.R.8467-74/L.R.193-13-2 dated 28th April 1914 a prescribed number of minor tanks has to be taken up each year for restoration in each District. This requires a careful selection of the tanks in the taluk with due regard to the needs of the ryots and the prospects of recovering the contribution for the work from them. The work of collecting the contribution is very important, as without such contribution being first recovered no work of restoration can be attempted even though the project is sanctioned. I am not in favour of relieving the Amildars from Maramat duties and the proper maintenance, repairs and restoration

of

of tanks should continue to form an important part of his duties. The new scheme for the restoration of minor tanks has been just brought into force and its working may be watched for some time before any change is taken up for consideration.

(2) In Police matters the Amildar has now to take up himself the investigation of all heinous cases and all correspondence however, trivial, it may be, has to pass through him between the Police Inspector and the District Superintendent of Police. The experiment of relieving him of Police duties may be tried as it forms a part of the wider subject of the separation of executive and judicial functions to which Government have promised consideration. For this, however, it is essential that the pay and -- status of the Police Inspectors should be raised, as they will then constitute the Heads of the Taluk Police and the considerable -- responsibility will devolve on them. However when the Amildars are relieved of all Magisterial work, there would perhaps be no objection to their continuing to do the Police duties. But it may be observed that there is an advantage in divesting the Amildars of both the Police and Judicial functions, as it would leave them free to devote their full attention to their proper Revenue work and to the increasing volume of work connected with the Economic Conference the Village Improvement Scheme &c.

(3) The second proposal relates to Hobli charges as now -- existing - A general increase in the number of Hoblies is not -- called for. Some large and unwieldy Hoblies may be split up so as to constitute manageable ones. Thus it is a matter of detail to be settled by a consideration of the particulars of each of the Hoblies.

(4) Lastly, in the matter of raising the minimum period of tour of Amildars from 10 days a month to 15 days, it is very doubtful if this can be done with advantage. If they are relieved of Police and Magisterial work, it will become possible to raise the minimum number of touring days but under existing conditions

I

I am not in favour of increasing the present minimum.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Offg. Deputy Commissioner,

Kadur District.

D.S.R.

GPB—50,000—30-7-15

19 12 SEP 1916

From

The Deputy Commissioner,

Tumkur District.

To

The Secretary to Government,

General Department, Bangalore.

Dated 8th September 1916.

Despatched 11th

Received

General No. 8H07C6l

No. 9-16-17

Enclosure No. nil.

Forwards opinion re the improvement of the efficiency of the Taluk Administration.

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Tumkur District,
Dated, Tumkur, the 8th September1916.

From

K. Chandy, Esqr., B.A.,
Deputy Commissioner,
Tumkur District.

To

D. M. Narasinga Rao, Esqr., B.A.,B.L.,
Secretary to the Government of His Highness the
Maharaja of Mysore, General Department,
BANGALORE.

Sir,

In reply to your letter No.120/E.A.G. dated 24th March 1916 calling for my opinion on certain measures suggested for improving the efficiency of Taluk Administration, I have the honour to state as follows:-

First with regard to giving relief to the Amildars by divesting them of Maramat and Police duties:

As there is a department now organized for carrying out the Minor tank-Restoration Scheme and a qualified Assistant Engineer appointed to carry out the work, it would be unnecessary to burden the Amildars with this work and responsibility of supervising the technical work done by the Tank Inspectors and overseers. They may be consulted in the matter of restoration of tanks &c., but to hold them responsible for the execution of the technical work is a responsibility which is not reasonable to expect.

It may not be out of place here to state that the proposal to amalgamate the District Fund, Municipal and Minor Tank restoration work under a competent Engineer for a district, under the Deputy Commissioner and President District and Municipal Boards is a very

very desirable reform which would give further relief to the Amildars. As the Amildar is made responsible for the peace of the Taluk, it is not advisable to divest him of Police powers and even if there should be a separation of the Judicial from the Executive in the present state of our general population, it would not be desirable to effect this change at present.

Secondly, as regards the increasing the number of hoblies: This is not necessary. I have heard complaints from nearly all Amildars that several of the new school men are not as competent as the old type; for the Shekdari, if less attention is paid to the passing of tests, and ~~those~~ more to general character and ability, most of the Hoblies do not require further division.

Thirdly, as regards the raising the minimum period of tour of Amildar from 10 to 15 days, it may be possible to do so when the much discussed subject of the separation of the Judicial from the Executive is carried out into effect fully.

I have confined my opinion to the points specifically referred to, in your letter and I have refrained from making any remarks on the many side issues which this subject raises.

I have the honour to be

S i r,

Your most obedient servant,

K Chandy

Deputy Commissioner,

Tumkur District.

T.K.N.

KAG

25-7-17

63

No. 132 8/6/17

Sec

From

GEN. & REV. SECRETARIAT VIII E. UNIT. 25 JUL 1917

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Bangalore District.
Dated Bangalore, 23rd July 1917.

P.F.Bowring, Esq.,
Deputy Commissioner,
Bangalore District.

To

D.M.Narasimga Rao, Esq., B.A., B.L.,
Secretary to the Government of His Highness
the Maharaja of Mysore, General Department.

Sir,

With reference to your reminder letter No.120/E.A.G. of the 28th June 1917, inviting attention to your letter No.120/E.A.G. of the 24th March 1916 in which an opinion for improving the -- efficiency of Taluk Administration has been called for, I have the honor to state that I have furnished my opinion in the matter from the Kolar District in my letter dated 2nd April 1916.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant.

for Deputy Commissioner,
Bangalore District.

L.S.R.
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25 JUL 1917

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From

The Deputy Commissioner
Bangalore Dist.

To

The Secy. to the Government
of Mysore - Genl. Dept.

Dated 23rd July 17

Despatched 24th July 17

Received

General No. C 132 of 16-17

No. Secy

Enclosure No.

& in the matter for the improving
Efficiency of Taluk Administration - Stat
that opinion has already been
furnished from Kolar Dist

R. C. 4.

EA 8120 8/18 64

8 AUG 1917

From

The *Revenue Commissioner in Mysore.*

To

The Secretary to the Government of
H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore,
G e n e r a l *Department.*

Dated 6

Despatched Bangalore ~~1st~~ August 1917.

Received

General No. A.C.1488

Enclosure No. 3

SUBJECT.

Forwarding a note containing my views re improving the efficiency of Taluk Administration .

D. 20. 74
8-8-17
65

OFFICE OF THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER
IN MYSORE,

Bangalore, ~~1st~~ August 1917.

No. A.C. 1488
3

FROM

K. Doraswami Iyer Esquire,

Revenue Commissioner in Mysor

To

The Secretary to the Government of
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore,
Department.
General

SIR,

With reference to correspondence ending with your letter No. 120-E.A.G. dated the 27th February 1917 regarding improving the efficiency of Taluk Administration I have the honor to forward herewith a note containing my views on the subject .

2. The enclosures received with your letter No. 120 E.A.G. dated the 24th March 1916 are herewith returned.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Assistant Commissioner,
For Revenue Commissioner.
Absent on casual leave.

V.M.R.

EFFICIENCY OF TALUK ADMINISTRATION.

A Taluk administration is good or bad as the man at the head of it makes it. We cannot be too careful therefore in our selection of Amildars. The present system of recruitment of Amildars and Deputy Amildars from lists of officials in various Departments is very unsatisfactory. Some years ago when the lists were introduced, the idea was to allow the Deputy Commissioner to select from ~~it~~ transfers in filling up temporary vacancies in the District, but the lists have now arrived at quite a different purpose which unfortunately tends to undermine the Deputy Commissioner's prestige and his ability to maintain discipline. The Amildar in the old days looked to the solid worth of his work to procure him advancement but the present day official is intent on thinking out short cuts of sorts and has lost faith in his Deputy Commissioner as an influence of any consequence to make him or mar him.

The present scale of pay in the Revenue Department is by no means attractive except to very inefficient men. When the wages for ~~all~~ labour of all kinds have increased everywhere, it would be idle to expect efficient work at old wages for the Government. This Department which used to be very attractive once is not so now. Our younger officials are usually of the inefficient kind who cannot make a living elsewhere and our efficient officials are those who have put in some service and are too old to go elsewhere and adjust themselves to new environments. Even their efficiency suffers from the not very encouraging fact of young men of other Departments and raw men of no Department being preferred for the Amildary service when an Amildary is about the top notch of the ambition of most of these poor sweaters.

Every new Department means more work to the Revenue Officer The Departments get well officered but there is not much though

Am

given

given to the sweaters of the Revenue Department in the distant Taluks. For instance to whose exertions are due the many new schools in the villages? The task remains to the overworked Revenue Department but the credit goes awooing elsewhere.

An augmented staff and improved prospects all round are absolutely necessary for improving the existing state of affairs:-

1. The Amildar may be relieved of his Police functions after the morale of the Police force is improved.

2. Every Taluk should have a Peshkar in view of the amazing increase of work that has accrued. He may be invested with 3rd class magisterial powers but the Amildar should be the second class magistrate and should be empowered by a suitable amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure to transfer 3rd class cases to the Peshkar. The Peshkar should not have power to take direct cognizance.

3. It is not desirable in my opinion to divest Amildars of their Police, Magisterial and Marahmat work. In regard to their connection with the Police Department I can unhesitatingly say that it is a great factor in ensuring fairplay and justice to the public. An Amildar's knowledge and estimate of the various classes and communities of his Taluk and their varying temperaments are more extended than an Inspector's and further in his important functions of Revenue Officer and Magistrate he has a mind trained to higher thinking and is better able than a mere Police Officer to detect the weak points in a Policeman's theories of crime and the artificial links in the chain of evidence relied upon to support a given theory. The happy results of the Inspector's subordination to the Amildar are evidenced every day by the considerable curtailment in the number of false cases

Para 3 may be cancelled & judicial branch work left to special tahsildar

Present Sec to Govt III
Nov 15/17

cases going to the magistracy through the Police and in the speedier termination to the innocent accused's worries and anxieties. When there occurs a miscarriage of justice especially one resulting in the conviction of an innocent person the people lay the blame more readily upon the Amildar than upon the Inspector or Superintendent because of their belief that the good and the innocent are his special care and protection. With many honourable traditions attaching to his office and with his acknowledged position in the Taluk, the Police interests of the State are best confided to his efficient yet sympathetic hands if those interests are to continue to be identical with ~~with~~ the welfare and happy content of the good and loyal citizen. If the Amildar continues as Head of the Taluk Police he need never try cases which he has investigated or has seen something of on the Police side; and he does not. There are Assistant Commissioner Magistrates to take up those cases. The cases that an Amildar takes up for direct investigation are very very few for they are usually 1st class or sessions and are taken up by the Superintendent of Police who will naturally supersede the Amildar.

4. It is not desirable to increase an Amildar's period of touring from 10 to 15 days. Ten days a month are ample.

5. The number of hoblis should be increased to what it was before the reduction so as to enable the shekdars to give fuller attention to the multifarious duties expected of them and to secure quick despatch of work.

2 of Proposals required

6. The Taluk staff should be strengthened and its prospects improved as proposed in this office letter No.C.3327 dated the 21st March 1917.

Tend & comp. Inta

7. Recruitment to the Amildary should be confined to officials of the Revenue Department and nominations to the Civil Service confined to the Amildars. These appointments

Recommend. on C. on 9.6.

appointments should be made only upon an unqualified recommendation of the Revenue Department.

8. The Amildars are to the Revenue Department what Munsiffs are to the Judicial Department. They were all along recognised as officers of equal status but now the Munsiffs have improved salaries and prospects while the Amildars have not and it is a source of discontent. The Amildars should be graded as follows:-

1st grade	Rs 300
2nd grade	Rs 250
3rd grade	Rs 200
Minimum pay of an acting Amildar	Rs 150

They should also be granted travelling allowances at the same rates as officers of corresponding grades in other Departments. There need be no distinction in the rates when travelling within their jurisdiction or outside.

9. The shekdari training class in Bangalore under the control of the Revenue Department should be revived and that in the Mysore Engineering School abolished. Greater prominence should be given to Revenue and Survey training in the curriculum.

10. Accommodation should be provided for Amildars throughout the State and for the subordinate officials in places where houses are not easily had. The construction of office and houses for shekdars is necessary everywhere.

11. Arrangements should be made for the speedy completion of the Village and Taluk Manuals.

Early action is necessary in regard to the simplification of returns and the publication of a Manual of periodical reports and returns.

K. DORASWAMI IYER
Revenue Commissioner.

Copy

TALUK ADMINISTRATION.

It is a matter of prime necessity that Amildars should as far as practicable make local inspections and enquiries before forming any opinion or submitting reports on all matters, however trivial they may be, instead of merely forwarding the reports submitted by S hekdars. If the Amildars move about freely and verify on the spot the correctness of reports of the subordinate officers, there would be such a vast improvement in the quality of the work turned out by them; and even in any particular case the Amildar is unable by some reason or the other to make any personal inspection but has to depend upon the subordinate staff, the very fear that he might any day turn up on the spot and verify the truth or otherwise of their report, will act as a wholesome deterrent against their sending in vague, unverified or unreliable reports.

The despatch of business in a Taluk depends entirely on the activity displayed by an Amildar, who for that purpose should be a good horseman and required to actually camp out in the outlying villages for at least 15 days in a month.

Outdoor useful work and not mere quill-driving being the most important factor in the satisfactory performance of the duties of an Amildar, the emoluments of this responsible officer have to be commensurate with the executive efficiency expected of him, neither of which can at present be said to be quite adequate. With the steady rise in the prices and

the comparatively high standard of living, the pay of an Amildar, which was fixed some years ago, is hardly sufficient to meet his needs. The scale of pay of this class of officers who are the back-bone of the service should be urgently revised, and their travelling allowances also increased proportionately, in addition to holding out more easy flow of promotion and better prospects of advancement to higher grades of service, which alone can greatly stimulate them to work with more zeal and interest. In this connection, it will be mere affectation not to bring to the notice of Government that the anomoly of having a large number of acting Amildars, as at present, has to a large extent deteriorated the Taluk administration, the generality of officiating men, not unnaturally, with the uncertainty of being confirmed, merely trying to do the routine, not even equipping themselves with good and serviceable horses.

Besides, another weak point in the modern Amildar is generally his want of grasp of the principles of law, in spite of his success in the local service examinations, and men who are not likely to turn out good magistrates and exercise their police duties as heads of Taluk Police, with vigour, common sense and tact, ought not to be selected for the post.

2. Closely allied to this subject, are the improvements in the Taluk Sheristedari and Shekdari services, which at present are not so satisfactory.

To relieve the Amildars of much of the dry

routine and spare his energies for the out-door work, the Taluk Sheristedar must be a man of experience and thorough knowledge of the practice and procedure of the Revenue law and Accounts, for which capable and efficient men from the class o: Shekdars and Head Gumastas should be more frely made use of than now.

3. The Shkdari class itself is unfortunately deteriorating. The minimum standard of general education or entry into this service was fixed as a pass i the Matriculation examination in the year 196; and whereas in our neighbouring provinces ne standard is being raised from time to time, w have recently allowed the rule to be relaxed an been entertaining raw youths with qualificatons of the Lower Secondary examination, withthe result that while the old and experienced lass of Shekdars is fast disappearing we have bn replacing them only by a set of people wi meagre qualifications and no culture bringing wn the service to the level, perhaps lower thawhat it was some years ago. This is a matter grave importance which cannot be too strongly phasized for the bettering of the Taluk adnistration.

4. Thesent rule which requires the deputation of uk Gumastas for the inspection of boundaryarks requires abrogation, not only for the reas that their services cannot well be spared, has been found by experience, the work ins Taluk Cutcherries being ever on the increasout also because they are ill-equipped for thiuty which requires for its satisfactoryrformance the services of trained men

like Mojanidars, who can bring to bear upon the discharge of their duties professional skill of a fairly high order, and any money spent on the entertainment of such men will be more than compensated for by the adequacy of the return expected.

5. The existing practice of disposing of Phavathi Vars Thakthas at the time of the Huzur Jamabandi may as well be given up, there being no reason why, under the present system of having Sub Divisional Officers, such cases instead of being allowed to accumulate for a year shoul not be disposed of then and there as they arise

N O T E.

MEASURES NEEDED FOR PROMOTING THE EFFICIENCY OF TALUK ADMINISTRATION.

I have been asked for my views on the measures needed for promoting the efficiency of the Taluk Administration if I am agreeable to the proposal.

I am not sure if by Taluk Administration is meant the administration of the Division from the Sub Division officer down to the patel and shanbhog of the village, or if it refers only to the Amildar and his immediate subordinates; but the difference is not very material.

I don't think very much need be said about the Sub Division officer. He is the controlling spirit of the sub division; and provided he has a sufficiency of tact, and is well up in the details of what ought to be done, and is looked up to for guidance by those placed immediately under him, he ought not to find his duties too arduous, and we may take it that most of our Assistant Commissioners, as a rule, possess these qualities.

The important personage in successful Taluk Administration is the Amildar, and from my experience I may say that we have all sorts and condition of Amildars - good, bad and indifferent.

To fill this post successfully now-a-days is no easy matter. Years ago, it was always said that the Amildar with his multifarious duties was a hard worked official; and what is to be said now when, owing to the activities of the Economic Conference, and the call for statistics from all directions, his work is probably double what it used to be.

Some people advocate the separation of the executive and judicial functions in the Amildar, but I myself am not in favour of this. The Amildar has not only to attend to the collections and other Revenue work, but is also responsible for the peace and tranquility of the people of the Taluk; and if he is deprived of his judicial functions, I opine that people will not listen to him so readily, and he will certainly lose a good deal of his prestige and power to maintain discipline and order in the villages. How to relieve him then of some of his work is a problem not easy to solve, and the only work that I can think of that he might be relieved of is Maramat and the restoration of minor tanks if this can be entrusted solely to the Maramat Engineer and his sub overseers and the Sub Division officer. Perhaps also he may be relieved of Police duties. Even this is of dubious expediency.

The recruitment of Amildars is another very ticklish subject. Nearly every official who draws a salary of Rs.70 thinks that he is entitled to have his name entered in the list of officials eligible for Amildari, irrespective of what Department he has been working in all his life, and how little he knows about Revenue matters. In fact, I do not think much of this list.

To make a good Amildar, the candidate besides having passed all the required tests, should be a person of experience and character with tact enough to command the confidence of the people, and one who has worked his way up from the lower rungs of the ladder, and is conversant with all the details of Revenue Administration from the work of the patel and the shanbhog upwards.

No official who has not ~~previous~~ previously served in the Revenue Department for at least five years in one or more of the following appointments, viz. District Sheristedar, Head Clerk, Head Munshi or Head Accountant in a Deputy Commissioner's office or Taluk Sheristedar, should be considered eligible for Amildari. Graduates possessing the above qualifications should be preferred to non-graduates.

It is an up-hill task for any one to be appointed an Amildar, if he is ignorant of the details of routine of office and administrative works.

I doubt if the present ruling of ten days out per month is of much value. The out-door work of the Amildar can be better gauged by the extent of his inspections of villages, tanks, etc, and by the knowledge that he shows of his Taluk when questions are put to him by his superior officers. The Amildar should be able to pass orders on most subjects that come before him without having to refer the matter to his Shekdars and Gumastas if he has really studied the wants of the people, and is well acquainted by constant inspections of villages, of Taluk affairs.

The haltage allowance of one rupee a day now paid to the Amildars is paltry compared with the responsibilities and status of their offices.

I would not however increase it as this might lead to abuse and constant absence of the Amildar from Head-quarters. I would rather give him a horse allowance of Rs.25.

As regards Shekdars, it is to be regretted that the scheme formulated a few years ago to improve the

service by introducing men of better educational qualifications has been relaxed by lowering the qualification for Shekdari.

Young men of education and character should be selected, and after a sufficient course of clerical training in Revenue work, should be posted as Shekdars, fair prospects of a rise in the service should be extended to them by giving them preference in filling up the appointments of ministerial headships in District offices and also the Taluk Sheristedari; and an Amildari should be a no remote prize to an official who has thus worked through the ranks of subordinate executive and clerical service. It is then that the service will attract young intelligent men capable of turning out hard and honest work.

As for the officials who comprise the Amildar's office establishment, it is difficult to say what is best to be done for them.

There are some very excellent and worthy persons among them, but taking them all round, they are not up to the mark, principally because their education is deficient, and because they have not got a proper sense of responsibility.

The apparent inefficiency is due to this. They are not exactly incompetent, but their inefficiency is due to want of moral training.

Even if all their salaries were doubled, they would not do their work any better. They lack a moral sense of what is right and what is wrong in official matters, and this is due of course to the poor education that, in the majority of instances, they have received and the consequent difficulties of training such poorly educated men.

As for patels and shanbhogs, these as a whole, do what is expected of them fairly well. I don't think we can interfere much with them. These are hereditary offices, and the most we can do in the case of patels is to see that now-a-days the men who are appointed are literate with sufficient character and sense of responsibility as the headmen of the villages.

To sum up, I would say that to improve the effi ciency of the Taluk Administration, three things are very necessary:-

1. Very careful selection of Amildars;
2. Improvement of the Shekdari service by selecting young promising men to education and character; and
3. Improvement of the education especially the moral tone of those men appointed to work as Munshis and Gumastas in the Taluk office.

With improvement in their status, and a pros pect of rising to better things, which is now ver remote for them, better men may be secured.

The subject is a very wide one, and many and varied views are probably forthcoming, and I have therefore confined myself to a few very important points.

One other point, and I have done

One patent defect in the Revenue Administrai an inconvenience both to the Authorities and to people alike - is the want of finality in the dec sions over revenue questions and disputes. It is a common experience at present that no dispute o takrar is set at rest by any one enquiry and deci sion even ofthe highest authority. The disappoir

party is encouraged to hammer on his own point and keep alive to his claim by constant petitions on which the enquiries are repeated over and over again with varying results according to the guiding spirit of the moment. This only tends to swell the work of the Amildar with no hope of ending the takrar either by authoritative decision or local reconciliation. What is wanted is that, in Revenue disputes, a principle of finality should prevail as in civil and criminal matters with defined rules of limited appeals and revision.

I may also add that the number of petitions received in Taluk offices direct from parties and also through the Sub Division and the District offices is enormous. Petitions are often simultaneously sent to more than one office on one and the same subject. The enormous increase in the number of petitions is one of the chief causes of heaviness of work in the Taluk offices. The number of petitions is one of the chief causes of heaviness of work in the Taluk offices. The number of petitions can be much reduced by strict enforcement of a rule of finality in decision and of the stamp rule which requires proper stamp to be used for original petitions. Reminder petitions should also be stamped, but they may be charged half fees. Every petition should be written on Government paper. In all cases of appeal against the orders of subordinate Revenue officers, the production of orders appealed against should be invariably insisted on.

Anonymous and malicious petitions however, should be discouraged as much as possible.